

11TH SEPTEMBER 2020

From the Headmaster

'The Playroom is empty...'

The start of the school year is always very special. A mixture of excitement and even a few nerves as everyone settles in. This year it has been a particular delight to welcome pupils and staff back to Stonyhurst. The campus comes alive when full of young people and it was wonderful to see the facilities being used for sport again last Saturday.

The first boys who travelled to Saint-Omer in France in 1593 (then the Spanish Netherlands) to the newly founded English College (now Stonyhurst) had an uncertain and difficult journey. This year, some 427 years later, there have also been uncertain and difficult journeys, but for very different reasons. Families have had to deal with a myriad of issues including quickly changing quarantine requirements and often complex travel arrangements. However, nearly everyone has made it back (there are a few more due to arrive over the next few weeks) and there is genuine delight to be back.

Thank you for the trust you place in Stonyhurst to educate your children and keep them safe. We take this responsibility very seriously indeed and I am grateful to the whole staff who are so committed to our young people and display such creativity and professionalism.



Ascensio Scholarum is held in the College during the first week of term. By tradition, this is the occasion when each year group officially 'ascends' into the next Playroom with the words 'The Playroom is empty...'. In the past, pupils would literally move all their belongings, including the furniture, to their new Playroom. Fortunately, these days laptops and sports bags are a little more portable. You may be aware that the Jesuits invented the concept of different subjects being taught in each different year group. They also invented Studies (the Stonyhurst name for homework). It is always a great privilege to be able to bring the Stonyhurst Lists from 1794 from the Archives to show pupils that their names are added to this illustrious list, as will the names of generations to follow.

The usual preparations for the start of term have been more complex this year. In addition to planned renovations and refurbishments, the maintenance team created a number of new classroom spaces and installed over 70 new interactive boards to support the range of teaching and learning methods we need to ensure everyone can learn safely. The planning for the new term is captured in some 118 Risk Assessments! Naturally this is only the starting point and arrangements are continually under review. The pupils have approached the new arrangements with real maturity, and we shall continue to develop and enrich the offer for our young people.

The feedback from parents last term was that they really appreciated the level of communication over lockdown and so we shall continue with this Stonyhurst Anywhere newsletter. Each week I look forward to sharing with you the news from the campus as we help support the formation of your sons and daughters into the best versions of themselves.

Finally, I should like to pay tribute to Rhetoric 2020. This group had the most unexpected and challenging end to their time as pupils and we are looking forward to welcoming them back as OS to complete the rites of passage that were not possible this summer. Meanwhile, please do join me in congratulating them on their achievements. The list of distinguished universities around the world and range of courses to be studied bodes well for these young people and our wider Stonyhurst community.

Quant Je Puis.

John Browne





All smiles at Stonyhurst

After weeks of planning, it was wonderful to welcome our staff and pupils back to Stonyhurst. The corridors across campus are once more abuzz with the sound of laughter, lessons and activities.

Our pupils have happily jumped into the new school routines and have quickly learned and adapted to the new technology used in their lessons.

Welcome back to one and all!







St Mary's Hall's pupils are happy to be Back

Like the College, St Mary's Hall is once again awash with the joy and laughter of our pupils. It was lovely to see their smiling faces as they walked through the doors once again and the equally smiling faces of the staff as they welcomed everyone back.

The pupils quickly jumped into lesson mode and have adapted to the new guidelines with their usual positive attitudes.





'Every End is a New Beginning' ~ Unknown

We are incredibly proud of our Rhetoric class of 2020, they are a remarkable year group, distinguished in character as well as achievement. During lockdown Rhetoric 2020 showed remarkable resilience, as well as generosity, compassion and friendship to younger pupils. Following a year of uncertainty, we were delighted to celebrate their outstanding exam results and we wish them all the very best for their new adventures and look forward to welcoming them back to their alma mater as OS 2020.

Stonyhurst 2020 International Baccalaureate (IB):

- 100% pass rate compared to a world average of 77.8% (IBO, 2019)
- Our most successful candidate achieved 44 points (out of a maximum of 45 points) placing them in the top 1% of candidates worldwide and equivalent to 4 A* at A-Level
- Over one third (38.5%) of pupils achieved 38 or more points, equivalent to 2A*s and 1A at A-Level
- · As a cohort, the average point score is 36, compared with the worldwide average of 29.9

Stonyhurst 2020 A-Level:

- 100% pass rate
- Almost half of all entries (48.2%) were awarded A*- A and 72.5% were awarded A*-B
- 20 candidates achieved all A* and A grades

Offers have been secured at a range of top UK Russell Group universities and prestigious universities worldwide including: Bristol (UK), Bocconi University (Italy); Cardiff (UK); Cambridge (UK); Durham (UK); Exeter (UK); Edinburgh (UK); ESCP European Business School (France); Glasgow (UK); IE University (Spain); Imperial College London (UK); Kings College London (UK); Leeds (UK); London School of Economics (UK); Loughborough (UK); Manchester (UK); Newcastle (UK); New York University (Abu Dhabi); Oxford (UK); Reading (UK); St Andrews (UK); The Sorbonne (France); University College London (UK); University of Florida (USA); University of Vienna (Austria); Warwick (UK).

Courses include: Architecture; Biomedical Science; Business Management; Chemistry; Classics; Computer Science; Dentistry; Economics; Engineering; International Management; International History and Politics; International Social and Public Policy; Law; Material Science and Engineering; Medicine; Modern Languages and Economics; Museum Studies and Archaeology; Pharmacy; Philosophy; Philosophy and Psychology; Theology.



'Music is a piece of art that goes in the ear and straight to the heart' ~ Unknown

The Lower Gallery is now the home to a magnificent Bösendorfer grand piano. With an appropriate sanitising regime, it is now available to all to play, filling the wonderful acoustics of both Galleries with music. The Bösendorfer first arrived in the College in early 1928, at the same time as the organ in St Peter's. It was the main concert piano, and lived in the Academy Room for many years. At some stage it was retired to the Orchestra Room. It has now been refurbished-inside and out!-and returned to its original condition by Shacklefords of Macclesfield. The Stonyhurst Magazine of June 1928 describes it as having a 'rich velvety tone'; players who remember it from Orchestra Room days will enjoy reacquainting themselves with the instrument, which now lives up to this description again.

Mr Henderson
Director of Music





Poetry Pupil's Cricket Success

It has been a remarkable last 10 days for one of our talented Poets. Liberty has been selected in the regional North West Thunder Cricket Squad.

This is a professional team and they play in the first ever 50 over ladies' cricket competition in England and Wales. The competition is called the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy and Liberty is playing with and against the very best female cricketers in the UK. A tremendous achievement for a 16 year old.

NW Thunder have played two matches so far, against Central Sparks in Worcestershire, and yesterday against the Northern Diamonds at Liverpool CC.

Liberty is a talented off spinner and yesterday she was given her first opportunity with the ball. She was most definitely up to the challenge as she took her first senior wicket at this level, trapping three time World Cup winner, Jenny Gunn, LBW. A moment she will remember for a long time.

Our congratulations to Liberty and good luck from everyone at Stonyhurst for the rest of the season.







Sport Returns to Stonyhurst

After a break of 5 months, sport has finally returned to Stonyhurst! Albeit looking somewhat different to usual.

To get ready for the new term a number of runners from the Stonyhurst Running Club turned up on Monday 31st August to assist in setting up a permanent waymarked Cross Country course. This will be used over the coming term to help keep pupils both active and engaged in a competitive games programme.

Given the restrictions imposed by both the government and national governing bodies of many sports, running is a sport that can easily be planned to be COVID safe. The new course will allow pupils to run individually maintaining social distance, whilst using the technology of Strava to compete against each other, creating both inter Playroom and Line competitions.

The day ended by setting a number of lap times of the new course, followed by a socially distanced BBQ.

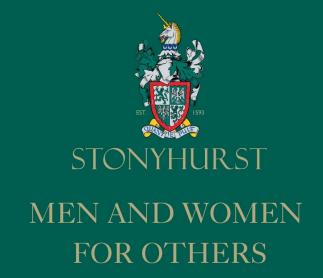
A big thank you to the pupils who turned up to help.







Perspectives & Horizons



A Monument of Recognition

The 425 St Omers Cross is now complete! The cross was commissioned to recognise all those who donated to the 425 Bursary Appeal in 2019. The beautiful cross is situated outside The Centenaries Theatre at St Mary's Hall and will be blessed by Fr Tim on the 25th September.



A Handy Addition

We are very thankful for the generous donation of multiple hand sanitising stations from WhiffAway Group, whose director is James Mclean OS 2004. The stations are located across the Stonyhurst Campus and will help to keep our pupils and staff safe. Quant Je Puis!

Leading by example, our Head of Line, Kieran, can be seen using the station located outside the Iron Gates.



Perspectives & Horizons



And I would Ride 500 Miles...

We are excited to share the news that Ed Macey-Dare OS 84 is taking part in The Master's Charity Cycle - The Distillers 500. Ed will be cycling 500 miles from Auchterarder in Scotland to the City of London!

The money Ed raises will be split between the Future Youth Zone and our very own Stonyhurst Foundation. If you would like to support Ed please visit his <u>JustGiving page</u>.

To find out more about the Stonyhurst Foundation, visit the dedicated webpage here.



The Morshipful Company of Distillers THE MASTER'S CHARITY BIKE RIDE >500 MILES IN 7 DAYS

September 16th – 22nd 2020

PLEASE, PLEASE HELP ME TO RAISE MUCH NEEDED FUNDS FOR SOME OUTSTANDING CHARITIES

I am a solicitor working in the heart of Westminster, and also Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Distillers, one of the 110 Livery Companies of the City of London. Charity is something very close to my heart and one of the cornerstones of our Livery.

Responding to a challenge by our current Master, I signed up to join him on a 500-mile Charity bike ride. Over one year on, with COVID-19 delays and subsequent uncertainty, we are now GREEN FOR GO. Soon my legs will take me from Auchterarder in Scotland to the City of London!

Five of us from our Livery Company, with another three from within the drinks industry, have accepted the challenge. There is no hiding place as the ride will be filmed all the way with daily blogs on our social media platforms, ending with a video of the ride on our new You Tube Channel. Do follow

on our social media platforms, ending with a video of the ride on our new You Fude Channel. Do follow our progress and stories!

50% of all the money raised will go to Future Youth Zone, a charity in Barking & Dagenham that is supported by the Lord Mayor's Appeal and part of the national OnSide Youth Zones network. The OnSide Youth Zones charity has one purpose, namely to build a network of 21st century youth centres



that are designed to give young people aged 8-19 years old somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to in their leisure time, occupying their bodies and minds with fun activities, learning new skills and socialising in a safe, positive way. They are there for young people in deprived areas where the alternative for many is spending the evening on the streets or isolated in their bedrooms, surfing the internet.

In addition, each rider may nominate their own personal charity, to which an equal share of the remaining 50% will be donated. My own chosen charity is The Stonyhurst Foundation, a charity launched in July of this year which is focused on widening access to the school by removing financial barriers. It is the largest ring-fenced independent bursary and fee assistance charity of its kind in Catholic independent education in the UK and has received the blessing of Pope Francis. Having been educated at Stonyhurst myself — and also the recipient of a bursary - this is my way of saying thank you to my alma mater and putting something back.



All fundraising will be through the Distillers' Charity.

Donating is easy and can be done in 3 simple ways (each one will enable us to claim gift aid):

- Transfer money to our Bank. C Hoare & Co. Sort Code 15:99:00. a/c number 19276390. a/c name: Distillers Charity account. IBAN: GB20 HOAB 1599 0019 2763 90. BIC: HOABGB21
- Send a cheque to Kim Lyons payable to "The Distillers' Charity" to 1, The Sanctuary, West minster, London SW1P 3JT.
- 3. Just Giving: https://www.iusteiving.com/fundraising/distillers500

We aim to arrive in London on City Giving Day (September22nd) which is part of the Lord Mayor's Appeal. The Lord Mayor will greet us on arrival at Guildhall Yard at 5pm, where we can hopefully present him with a substantial cheque for Future Youth Zone.

I hope that as many of you as possible will be there at the end to witness the presentation and then join us for a (socially distanced) drink!

Best wishes – and many thanks, in advance, for all your support

ED MACEY-DARE

OS 1979-1984

Miles for Refugees

Danny (OS 08) is taking part in the British Red Cross fundraising campaign 'Miles for Refugees'.

A team of volunteers and staff from the British Red Cross internal communications network, hailing from all over the British mainland, are clocking up the miles to raise money for Refugee Support.

If you would like to help Danny reach his fundraising target, visit his donation page, here.

Walk for McMillan



Friday 25th September 2020

Walk and Talk

As we are unable to hold our annual Macmillan coffee moming, the Stonyhurst parents social committee have arranged a socially distanced walk instead. Meeting at Hurst Green carpark after moming drop off. You will leave in small groups with a maximum of 6, at timed intervals, which will abide with the new government guidelines.

The route is a circular route which follows parts of the famous Tolkien Trail and should take no longer than 1.5 hours.

£5 a ticket which includes tea or coffee and a pastry for on the go. With all proceeds going to Macmillan.

This is a great opportunity to not only support a fantastic charity but meet some new faces. Everyone is welcome, please invite your friends to come along and support.

To book a place please contact the social committee via our email stonyhurstsocialcommittee@gmail.com







Faith that does Justice



Mass in St Peter's Goes Virtual

During lockdown we were lucky enough to be able to continue to mark our Special Masses and Liturgies, with Fr Tim Curtis SJ, our Jesuit Chaplain, celebrating them from the College Chapel.

Wanting to build on the opportunity for the whole Stonyhurst family to share in our special Liturgies, professional cameras were installed in St Peter's Church over the summer holidays.

These cameras will make it possible to stream live Masses and Liturgies via YouTube. We look forward to sharing our major feasts and celebrations with you when we are able to gather for them once more.

Curious and Active

Each half term, Jesuit schools across the UK focus particularly on one pair of virtues from the Jesuit Pupil Profile tree.

This half term's virtues are, curious and active.

During this period, Jesuit pupils are invited to be curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Jesuit schools help their pupils grow in this way by leading pupils to be curious about the universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church, and the wider community.

You can learn more about the JPP on Firefly: Chaplaincy > Parent Resources > Jesuit Pupil Profile



Join us online at 7:30 pm on Thursdays

3rd September

St Ignatius: Man of His Time and Saint for the Presents

Fr Dominic Robinson, S.J.

24th September

Forging a Little Way to Heaven: The Life and Spirituality of St. Therese of Lisieux

Canon John Udris



God and the Crib: Francis and Greccio

Fr Gabriel Kyte, C.F.R.

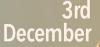


Saints, Scholars

8th October

Newman, Belief and Reality: Finding God in the World

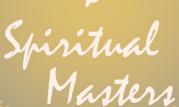
Pezzini

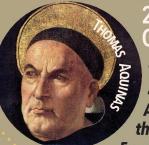


The Saviour of Europe: St Benedict

and **Benedictine Spirituality**

Fr Cassian Folsom, O.S.B.

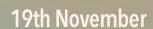




22nd October

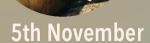
The Answer is 43: Thomas Aguinas on Life, the Universe and **Everything**

Fr Richard Conrad, O.P.



The Spanish Mystics: Life and Love in Jesus Christ

Fr Matthew Blake, O.C.D.



Devotion is for everyone: The working spirituality of St Francis de Sales

Canon Scott Tanner, I.C.K.S.P.

For more details and to register for a link



visit us at www.christianheritagecentre.com/events email us direct at events@christianheritagecentre.com find us on **f@ChristianHeritageCentre**

A Stonyhurst Treasure Chest



We were delighted to receive the gift of this beautifully crafted Timothy Oulton chest from their trunk collection.

This chest, named after Stonyhurst, is available in leather, contemporary metals or natural rattan. If you'd rather keep your treasures somewhere else, the Stonyhurst range also includes a sideboard, a coffee table or a side table. The choice is yours!





Prep School Liaison Officer

I am very excited to have joined the team at Stonyhurst as the College's new Prep School Liaison Officer. The main aims of my role are to engage with Prep Schools around the country and raise awareness of Stonyhurst through the organisation of events and programmes that will enable Stonyhurst to share its resources with prep schools and in turn, raise the College's profile among prep schools nationwide.



My background is in teaching. Having gained my undergraduate degree in Archaeology from the University of Bristol, I then proceeded to complete my PGCE in Secondary History at Keele University. My first teaching role followed at a 13+ prep school in Staffordshire, after three years there I moved on to my most recent teaching post at Witham Hall Prep School, a 13+ boarding, prep school in Lincolnshire. During my time in Lincolnshire I was Head of History, sports coach and together with my wife Sarah, Houseparent; responsible for the care of the growing number of boarders at the school, who then went on to attend some of the country's foremost boarding schools. It is this experience that I now aim to use within this exciting new role at Stonyhurst.

Born and raised in North Staffordshire, I now live in Southport with my beautiful wife, Sarah and our wonderful son, Daniel. Although much of our spare time seems to be dominated by DIY and the seemingly endless task of renovating our house, we do occasionally find time to enjoy our summer holidays in Cornwall and visit our family and friends who are spread between Liverpool, North Staffordshire and North Wales. This we combine with our National Trust membership and visiting historic houses and attractions – often the most enjoyable aspect of this is listening to Daniel bamboozle the Trusts wonderful volunteers with questions they never expect to hear from a 6 year old.

Along with spending time with my family I enjoy sport immensely. After 20 years with my first cricket club, Little Stoke CC in Staffordshire I took a break from cricket after Daniel's birth in 2013 but this season I have begun to play again for Southport & Birkdale CC, which I am enjoying hugely. I don't however anticipate another 20 seasons of cricket, I am not convinced my body, nor my wife would allow it! In the winter months, with my rugby playing days now behind me I instead follow the fortunes of my football team, Stoke City FC. This seems to cause some confusion with Daniel who has made the decision (incorrectly, in my humble opinion) to follow the team of his mother's hometown, Liverpool FC. For some peculiar reason he believes his team is better.

I am delighted to be at Stonyhurst and am very proud to work at such an amazing school. Boarding at Stonyhurst is both special and unique and it is an honour to be tasked with communicating the qualities of this and demonstrate to prep school parents, teachers and most importantly, pupils how a boarding education at Stonyhurst will help them become all they can be.

Object of the Week

The First Stonyhurst Lists
Early 19th century (MS volume) & May 1795 (Class list)

The earliest handwritten volume which records pupils at the College dates from the early 19th century. The book has been shown to pupils annually by the Headmaster for the Ascensio Scholarum and illustrates each individual's place in this institution's long history. The first page shows 'The Twelve Apostles' - the first twelve pupils at Stonyhurst in 1794, who had made the journey from Liege. After these twelve, it continues to list every pupil at Stonyhurst, arranged chronologically according to when they first arrived at the College. From this system of record keeping, a pupil's 'OS year' was traditionally regarded as the year of their arrival at Stonyhurst, rather than their leaving, as is the custom today.

However, this book is not the earliest record of the pupils at Stonyhurst; the early entries in this book were added in later from the original class lists, the earliest of which, dated to May 1795, is held in the Archives. This rough original working document was written part-way through Stonyhurst's first academic year. The single sheet of paper lists all boys attending the College on the 24th of May, 1795. This document notes which playroom, or 'class', the boys were in and has been scruffily amended to include the dates of arrival, making particular note of the boys who had been at the school from the very beginning. After May of that year, the document has been added to, as new pupils arrived, making it the very first surviving example of Stonyhurst's tradition of recording each of its pupils.



Open Days

Stonyhurst College Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening 17th September 2020 5.45pm - 8.30pm

St Mary's Hall Open Day (Format to be confirmed) 10th October 2020 9am -2pm

Stonyhurst College Open Day (Format to be confirmed) 7th November 2020 9am-2pm

Attending one of our open events is a great way to experience the full spectrum of our school and will provide the opportunity to meet many of our academic and pastoral staff.

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school. Stonyhurst College offers an unparalleled standard of day and boarding education for pupils aged 13 to 18 years. High teaching standards, small class sizes and independent study sessions help our pupils to achieve strong academic results. Our educational excellence is complemented by an extensive co-curricular programme that presents the opportunity to discover and grow talents outside of the classroom.

Please note, the structure of our Open Days are subject to change as we continue to work in line with the latest guidance on social distancing.

To find out more and to book a place, visit our website.

